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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/022,263	12/20/2001	Akiko Ono	011599	7649
38834	7590	12/24/2003	EXAMINER	
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP 1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NW SUITE 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20036			WALSH, DANIEL I	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			2876	

DATE MAILED: 12/24/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/022,263	ONO ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Daniel I Walsh	2876

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 7-25-03 and 8-28-03 (amendments).
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1 and 5-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 1 and 5-10 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 20 December 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6-03.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the Amendment received on 25 July 2003 and 28 August 2003. Further, the Examiner notes that the Daggar reference (US 5,748,737) on the IDS of 4 June 2003 was not considered, as it has been withdrawn from issue.

Claim Objections

2. Claims 5, 7, and 8 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Re claim 5, line 1: Replace “claim 4” with -- claim 1 --.

Re claim 7, line 2: Replace “claim 4” with -- claim 1 --.

Re claim 8, line 2: Replace “claim 4” with -- claim 1 --.

Appropriate correction is required.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11,453 O.G. 213.

A SHORTENED STAUATORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE TWO MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS LETTER.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1 and 5-10 are allowable over the prior art of record.

4. As allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant's response must either comply with all formal requirements or specifically traverse each requirement not compiled with. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(b) and section 707.07(a) of the M.P.E.P.

5. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to show or teach the newly added limitation that the second control section controls the first communication section to read the transaction history information from the storage of the card unit and to store the transaction history information into the save storage section when the card unit is attached to the apparatus while the connection determining section determined that the external apparatus is not connected to the connecting section.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Takami et al. (US 6,189,782), Ohki et al. (US 5,945,652), Takami et al. (EP 0 820 043 A2/A3), Niwata et al. (EO 0 872 816 A2), Tognazzini (US 5,850,077), Albaret (US 6,149,058), and Yanagi et al. (US 6,168,078).

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Daniel Walsh** whose telephone number is **(703) 305-1001 or (703) 272-2409 (as of January 15, 2003)**. The examiner can normally be reached between the hours of 7:30am to 4:00pm Monday through Friday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on (703) 305-3503. The fax phone numbers for this Group is (703) 308-7722, (703) 308-7724, or (703) 308-7382.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [daniel.walsh@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

DW
12-13-03



KARL D. FRECH
PRIMARY EXAMINER